

a cage is reported from Chinking. A rough was first beaten about the fact at orders of the District Magistrate until both ankles were smashed to pieces, and then, the sanction of the Taotai, he was exposed cage where he lingered for two days.

The Hu-pao says that telegraphic news has been received of the suppression of the

been reported of the suppression of a military revolt at Pargabatal. The chief offenders have been arrested, and the whole movement will be withdrawn. The revolt was caused by Hunan men to whom payments of pay

by Hunan men, to whom arrears of pay
due, and who murdered some of their officers.
Everything is quiet among the Russian troops
there.

The *Courier* says that the officials charged with the arrangements for the Emperor's wedding marriage have reported to Her Majesty that \$8,500,000 will be required, and the Emp

after considering their reports, issued an ordering Tls. 2,000,000 to be raised by Boards of Rites and Works, and the remainder Tls. 6,500,000 by the treasuries of various

The steamer *Poochi*, which arrived in Shanghai from Tientsin on the 26th ult., called at the wharf of the British Consulate, and

wreck of the *Paulah*. Twenty-six bale
merchandise and six packages of copper p
which the divers had recovered were transh
on board the *Paoche*. Sailing operations

still (the *Courier* adds) carried on, under considerable difficulties, however, but it was expected that further operations would be abandoned day or two.

The *Shen-pao* says that since the Imperial Maritime Customs has undertaken the collection of duty and *lekin* on opium, it has discovered large quantities of unpressed or cooked

large quantities of prepared or cooked food are being shipped in steamers to all the ports, and consequently certain regulations have been submitted to the Tsung-li Yamen

the Board of Revenue, so that when the proportionate amount of raw and prepared opium is obtained, the amount of duty and *lekin* to be levied will be determined.

The valuable property formerly owned by Sayle & Co., offered for sale by public auction on the 26th ult., was bought in. The first was The 30,000 the second The 30,000 and

third Trs. \$1,000. No other bids being
the auctioneer put the property up

The Courier says: "We have regret to learn the death of Mr. W. G. Hopkins, a prominent member of the Chinese community here, who died at Shanghai in 1896 in the good ship *Endeavour*, and almost immediately afterwards joined his wife, who had died at Shanghai, in the same vessel, until the fall of 1893, when he joined the *Augustine* Head & Co., with which firm he was associated until his close. For some time past the deceased has been ill, and in consequence of his illness he had been unable to meet more business. The late Mr. Hopkins was for many years official time-keeper at our Race Meeting; he was also a distinguished and an energetic member of the Fire and Marine Insurance Co. of Shanghai, one of the original subscribers. He was a very kind and deeply respected by a large circle of friends. Deceased died at the early age of 40 years, the majority of which have been devoted to his country."

About 7.30 p.m. on the 26th at a fire on Mt. Ross-Catara, Markham Road, the remains of Mr. S. Walker. The marine company

for some unaccountable reason, until after
o'clock; so that the firemen after a futile at-
tempt to combat the flames with buckets had to

and said idly y till the engine arrived
fire, which on the arrival of the brigade
very strong light upon the premises, and
to such an extent that when the engine
an appearance of panic the fire. Then
snook, which I observed the fire. Then
the roof fell in, and the place was
with the exception of one row. The fire
was comparatively old, and there being a
deal of wood used in the construction, the
lity with the wood the flames over it was
ly to be rendered at. By an old clock
was almost entirely annihilated, but a single
hose was kept at play. The stable which
very close to the house escaped uninjured
of the house being stable to police there

An interesting statement with regard to taxation and consumption of native opi-

[illegible]

are still at Peking, trying hard to get the agreement confirmed. I hear that they have secured the good will of His Excellency

Mr. H. B. Hobson, Commissioner of our port has arrived here, and left a Nawchwang. Mr. J. J. Kwaiok has arrived, and Mr. Visited Li Hwang-chang before yesterday. He is also busy with special agent Mr. Michio.

Our new Match Factory is finished and for work. They are turning out, I hear cases a day, at £1s. 15 per case, for we have a daily demand. The plant is able to outfit fifteen cases a day, but they cannot outfit workmen at present. It is under management of two Vienna gent Mercury Correspondent.

reserved price of £18,450,000, but there was no response. The property on the French Sika Road, formerly Buissonet's, but lately occupied by the British Consulate, has been offered at a reserved price of £18,450,000.

The Courier says—We met Gregoire at the breakfast table of Mr. G. Hopkins, who took place at Chateau at 7 a. m. on the 22nd of September. The deceased arrived, we learned, in Shanghai in 1895 in the good ship *Endeavour*, and he remained in the city for some time, at the American firm of Oliphant & Co., remaining until the fall of 1897, when he joined the staff of Augustine Heard & Co., with which firm he was associated until his death. He was a man of pleasant and easy going habits, and in the last he went to Chateau with the hope that this might prove beneficial. The late Mr. G. H. Hopkins was for many years official time keeper of the races, and was a member of the Jockey Club, and an energetic member of the Fire Brigade, in which he took a great interest, having been one of the original founders. He will be missed by his friends. Deceased died at the early age of 35 years, the majority of which have been spent in Shanghai.

o'clock; so that the firemen after a futile attempt to combat the flames with buckets had to stand idly by till the engines arrived.

fire, when the arrival of the brigade had very strong hold upon the premises, increased to such an extent that when the engines put an appearance to pump the water from the creek, which is close to the site of the house, there was practically nothing or little to do but the roof had fallen in, and the place was gutted with the exception of our room. The building was comparatively old, and there being a great deal of wood used in its construction, the proximity with which the flames overtook it was but only to be wondered at. By ten o'clock the fire was almost entirely subdued, but a single line of hose was sent at play. The stables, which

very close to the house escaped uninjured. One of the house boys stated to the police that fire originated through the overturning of a

An interesting statement with regard to the importation and consumption of native opium is made in a paper published in the *Shanghai Times* of this paper. Sir Robert Hart has discovered through the reports of the Commissioner of Customs at the various ports, that the consumption of native opium is three times greater than the imported drug, and if the same amount of *teklin* be levied on the native opium as is levied on the imported, the yearly revenue of the Government would be increased. The authorities submitted the matter to the Tientsin and Board of Revenue for consideration, but their decision is not yet known. Owing to the simultaneous collection of duty and the fact that the Government has no means of ascertaining the quantity of native opium imported, and the majority of smokers have therefore resorted to the native drug, which differs little from the imported article in taste, and is of the same quality, the Government has decided to levy *teklin* and *teklin* by the Imperial Maritime Customs for the next half-year amounted to more than £1,000,000 to £1,700,000, which is a very large sum of money. The Government estimates that the Canton surtax is only a day over £300,000; whereas, under the old discussion, the *teklin* farms alone used to pay £1,700,000 to the native authorities there.

TIENTSIN.

23rd September.

"The German army instructors at the Military School, Messrs. Eickert and Gieseler, have been discharged after a month's stay, and succeeded by three or four German officers on their way to this place."

Considering the circumstances under which the new course has been adopted, it is just possible they may be more fortunate than their accomplished and honorable predecessors, and may escape the peripatetic and inconvenient life of the German instructors, the only being more outwards to which retiring gentlemen have been subjected. The constitution of the school, however, is bad, and the new course will not be successful.

must be radically changed before good can be effected. The mandarin in charge is an ordinary Chinese official who knows military education no more than he knows the G

of his school is in much better condition. The virtual or acting native head is a very intelligent mathematician, who has had a long and honorable course of training in both French and English schools, has lived abroad, and is well versed in the languages of those countries. He treats his foreign assistants well, as Messrs. Walker, Macleish, and Hearnson are able to do their work without hindrance. He is fastidious in his habits, and is very particular with his chief, and the natural sciences proceed exceedingly. It has also the benefit of intelligent and sympathetic co-operation on the part of the Chinese. The Chinese head is Mr. Victorio Life Siquay, Mr. Loh Feng Sheng, former Vice of the Chinese Consulate at Hongkong, and one of Messieurs Sigual's pupils.

24th Septem-

It is reported that, as might be expected, there is much sickness in Peking amongst the Chinese. The city, after the floods around it, is a most deploable state of insalubriousness.

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The floods are falling the river is shoal

many places, and our traders will henceforth have access to and egress from our port more direct than hitherto.

—Daily Asia Correspondent.

The following cablegram was received at Shanghai last night:

Still at Peking trying hard to get the agreement confirmed. I hear that they secured the good will of His Excellency Governor Lu, who expects it will be long before it is confirmed.

Mr. H. B. Hobson, Commissioner of Customs at your port has arrived here, and left again for Peking.

We were visited by Tung-chang the day before yesterday. He is also busy with special agent Mr. Michie.

Our new Match Factory is finished and ready to start working out. The business passes a day. At 15 per cent, it hears we have a daily demand. The plant is able to produce five hundred boxes a day, but they cannot get them all sold. It is under the management of two Vienna gentles.

—Mercury Correspondent.

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